P23666.S02

What is claimed:

1. A system for providing a presence component in a telecommunications network in which a session to a session terminator is requested by a session initiator, comprising;

a presence server that receives a request for presence information and processes the request by comparing the session initiator's identity to preferences of the session terminator and returning a preferred treatment to the session initiator,

wherein the session is initiated based upon the preferred treatment.

2. The system of claim 1, further comprising service logic that receives the request from the session initiator and forwards the request to the presence server.

3. The system of claim 2, in which the session initiator further comprises a user agent client that forwards the request to the service logic, and a call user agent client that initiates the session.

4. The system of claim 1, in which the session initiator further comprises a presence user agent client that forwards the request to the presence server, and a call user agent client that initiates the session.

5. The system of claim 4, in which the session initiator initiates the session by sending an INVITE message to the session terminator based upon the preferred treatment.

6. The system of claim 1, in which the presence server requests additional information about the session and processes the request based upon the additional information.

7. The system of claim 1, further comprising a session initiation protocol (SIP) proxy server including service logic that receives the request from the session initiator and forwards the request to the presence server, wherein the SIP proxy server initiates the session by sending an INVITE message to the session terminator based upon the preferred treatment.

8. The system of claim 7, in which the SIP proxy server requests additional information from the session initiator and the wherein the presence server processes the request based upon the additional information.

19

9. The system of claim 1, further comprising a session control infrastructure, the session being initiated via the session control infrastructure.

10. A system for providing a presence component in a public switched telephone network, comprising;

a service switching point that receives a telephone call origination from a calling party, the call being placed to a called party;

a service control point that receives a query from the service switching point in response to the call origination, the query identifying the calling party and the called party; and

a presence server that receives a request for presence information from the service control point, the request identifying the calling party and the called party, the presence server processing the request by comparing the calling party identity to preferences of the called party and returning a preferred treatment to the service control point,

wherein the service control point instructs the service switching point to establish the call when the preferred treatment indicates that the called party will accept the call.

11. The system of claim 10, further comprising an intelligent peripheral that collects additional information from the calling party,

wherein the presence server processes the request based on the additional information.

12. The system of claim 10, further comprising an intelligent peripheral that informs the calling party when the preferred treatment indicates that the called party does not accept the call, and the service control point does not instruct the service switching point to establish the call when the preferred treatment indicates that the called party does not accept the call.

13. A system for providing a presence component in a wireless telecommunications network in which a session to a session terminator is requested by a mobile device, comprising;

20

a presence server that receives a request for presence information and processes the request by comparing the mobile device's identity to preferences of the session terminator and returning information required to set up the call to the mobile device,

wherein the session is initiated based upon the required information.

14. The system of claim 13, further comprising service logic residing in the wireless network, the service logic receiving the request from the mobile device and requesting preferred session parameters from the mobile device, the service logic forwarding the request, including the preferred session parameters to the presence server.

15. The system of claim 14, in which the mobile device further comprises:

a user agent client that forwards the request to the service logic and prompts a user to enter the preferred session parameters, the user agent client receiving the information required to set up the session from the service logic, which received the information from the presence server, and

a call user agent client that initiates the session based on the required information, which is received from the user agent client.

16. A method for incorporating presence into a telecommunications environment, comprising:

communicating with a presence platform to obtain presence information for another telecommunications subscriber;

initiating a telecommunications session with the other subscriber in response to the obtained presence information.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising:

forwarding preferred session parameters to the presence platform; and

determining the presence information based on the preferred session parameters.

18. The method of claim 16, in which the obtained presence information comprises instructions to forward to voice mail, and

21

in which the initiating further comprises connecting to the voice mail.

19. The method of claim 16, in which the obtained presence information indicates that the session terminator is unavailable or busy, and

in which the initiating further comprises not initiating the session and informing the session initiator that the session request was rejected.

20. The method of claim 16, in which the preferred session parameters comprise at least one of session type, urgency, and subject.